

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANTS : Hiroki MATSUOKA, et al. Confirmation No. 6446  
SERIAL NO. : 10/591,046  
FILED : August 29, 2006  
FOR : EXHAUST PURIFYING APPARATUS FOR INTERNAL  
COMBUSTION ENGINE  
GROUP ART UNIT : 3748  
EXAMINER : Tu Minh NGUYEN

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**RESPONSE TO MARCH 24, 2008 OFFICE ACTION**

S I R:

In response to the final Office Action mailed March 24, 2008, and in conjunction with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and a three-month extension of time in the above-identified application, the Applicant respectfully submits the following.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.